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The dread of child-bearing might be diminished by providing a rest after it of some weeks with continuance of wages or an equivalent from the state or from some insurance fund. Maternity hospitals and societies for helping nursing mothers should be increased. But the main thing is to reestablish equality, real equality, in the economic burdens of bachelors and of fathers of families.

The question discussed is of great and growing importance not only for France but for western Europe and the United States, but in each country it takes a slightly different form. In the United States argument has centered largely about the relative increase of the old native stock and of the immigrants of various classes. In England it has turned upon the rates of increase of different social and economic groups and the displacement of the middle class by less valuable strains. Neither of these phases of the problem is emphasized in the present work, the sombre tone of which perhaps merely anticipates by a few decades that of similar discussions in other countries when their conditions approach that of France. Nor does the writer challenge or discuss the assumption that an increasing population is desirable, an assumption hardly open to doubt in an era of war or preparation for war and for a country hemmed in by dangers, but far from necessary if other ways could be devised for settling international controversies.

Cornell University.

WALTER F. WILLCOX.

#### NEW BOOKS.

BEALE, O. C. *Racial decay; a compilation of evidence from world sources.* (London: King. 1911. 5s.)

Author was a royal commissioner of the commonwealth of Austria in 1907, and of the state of New South Wales in 1903.

BERTILLON, J. *La dépopulation de la France. Ses conséquences, ses causes mesures à prendre pour la combattre.* (Paris: Alcan. 6 fr.)

JENKS, J. W. and LAUCK, W. J. *The immigration problem.* (New York: Funk & Wagnalls. 1911. \$1.75.)

NEUHAUS, C. *Die berufliche und soziale Gliederung des deutschen Volkes. Die deutsche Volkswirtschaft und ihre Wandlungen im letzten Vierteljahrhundert*, Vol. I. (Munich: M. Gladbach. 1911. Pp. xv, 278. 4.50 m.)

To be reviewed.

PRATT, E. E. *Industrial causes of congestion of population in New York City.* Columbia University studies in history, economics, and public law, Vol XLIII, No. 1. (New York: Longmans. 1911. Pp. 259. \$2.00.)

To be reviewed.

WELTON, T. A. *England's recent progress*. (London: Chapman & Hall. 1911. Pp. lxiv, 742. 10s. 6d.)

An investigation of the statistics of migrations, mortality, etc., in the twenty years from 1881 to 1901 as indicating tendencies towards the growth or decay of particular communities.

### Social Problems and Reforms

*The Social Engineer*. By EDWIN L. EARP. (New York: Eaton and Mains. 1911. Pp. xxiii, 325. \$1.50.)

This book is intended as a text to be used by those preparing for social service, with particular reference to the needs of workers in religious organizations. The function of *The Social Engineer* as explained in this volume is the organization and direction of social forces. His work is analogous to that of the mechanical engineer in the industrial world, who so organizes and directs the activities of the laborers employed in vast construction undertakings, that all moves smoothly and no energy is lost. Social engineering then is the art of "making social machinery move with the least friction and with the best result in work done." The first part of the book is concerned with a discussion of social forces, their nature and operation, by way of grounding the student in the principles underlying the practice of social engineering. In the second part the author outlines the field in which the social engineer is to work, and suggests, by concrete example, the tasks awaiting him and methods of handling them. Especial emphasis is placed upon "religious social engineering," and the opportunities for the church to engage in a broader social service by a proper utilization and direction of the energies and religious zeal of its members. In discussing the machinery of social engineering, the author takes a position which will be welcomed by workers already in the field, secular and otherwise, when he deplors the tendency to duplicate organization. He urges that the church avail itself of machinery already created, and work with those societies already established, rather than form new ones to perform similar services. The doctrine of conservation, he believes, should be applied to social work through a closer coöperation on the part of those who are interested in social betterment, and by putting the emphasis upon preventive rather than remedial agencies.

This book offers no new social philosophy nor any new solution for social problems, but attempts rather to present in convenient